Please add the following new claims:

--35. A method for inhibiting the action of TNF-α for treating nerve disorders in a mammal by administering a TNF-α inhibitor comprising the step of:

(A) administering a therapeutically effective dosage to said mammal of said TNF-α inhibitor wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of (i) a soluble cytokine receptor that blocks TNF-α, (ii) a monoclonal antibody that blocks TNF-α, and (iii) a tetracycline or a chemically modified tetracycline that blocks TNF-α, which when administered to said mammal inhibits nerve injury.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein the mammal is human.

37. The method of claim 35, wherein the tetracycline or chemically modified tetracycline is selected from the group consisting of: tetracycline, doxycycline, lymecycline, oxytetracycline, minocycline, dedimethylaminotetracycline and bases and salts thereof.

38. The method of claim 35, wherein said nerve disorder is a spinal disorder.

39. The method of claim 35, wherein said nerve disorder is nerve root injury.

41. The method of claim 35, wherein said nerve disorder is caused by herniated discs.

42. The method of claim 35, wherein said nerve disorder is sciatica.

43. The method of claim 35, wherein said nerve disorder involves pain.

44. The method of claim 35, wherein said nerve disorder is nucleus pulposus-induced nerve injury.

45. The method of claim 35, wherein said nerve disorder is spinal cord compression.

46. The method of claim 35, wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is administered systemically or locally.

47. The method of claim 35, wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is administered parenterally.

48. The method of claim 35, wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is administered intramuscularly (i.m.), intravenously (i.v.), subcutaneously (s.c.), orally or rectally.

49. The method of claim 48, wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is administered i.v. by injection or infusion.

50. The method of claim 48, wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is administered is administered orally at a dosage of about 20 mg to about 1,500 mg.

51. The method of claim 35, wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is a tetracycline and is administered at a dosage of about 100 mg.

52. The method of claim 51, wherein said tetracycline is doxycycline.

53. A pharmaceutical composition for treating nerve disorders in a mammal comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a TNF-α inhibitor selected from the group consisting of (i) a soluble cytokine receptor which inhibits TNF-α, (ii) a monoclonal antibody that blocks TNF-α, and (iii) a tetracycline or a chemically modified tetracycline, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said pharmaceutical composition inhibits nerve injury when administered to said mammal.

54. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 53, wherein said tetracycline is selected from the group consisting of: tetracycline, doxycycline, lymecycline, oxytetracycline, minocycline, dedimethylaminotetracycline and pharmaceutically acceptable bases and salts thereof.

54 52
55. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 53, wherein the mammal is human.

55 52
56. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 53, wherein said nerve disorder is selected from the group consisting of: a spinal disorder, a nerve root injury, a nerve disorder caused by herniated discs, a nerve disorder involving pain, a nucleus pulposus-induced nerve injury, a spinal cord compression, and sciatica.

56 52
57. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 53, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is formulated for intravenous, intramuscular, oral, rectal, and subcutaneous administration.

57 52
58. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 53, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is formulated for parenteral administration.--

REMARKS:

This is a National Stage filing of International Application No. PCT/SE99/01671, filed 23 September 1999.

The present Amendment provides an Abstract of the Disclosure on a separate sheet. The Abstract is supported by the Abstract of the International Application PCT/SE99/01671 and introduces no prohibited new matter.